

# Hawaii MARINE

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## 2/3 engages in firefight

**Sgt. Robert M. Storm**  
*Combat Correspondent*

**JALABAD, Afghanistan** — On Nov. 12 through 22, Marines and Sailors of 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, attacked to disrupt Anti-Coalition Militias during Operation Sorkh Khar (Red Donkey). The Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, unit is deployed to Afghanistan where it is supporting Operation Enduring Freedom VI.

In the battalion-wide operation, Marines, Sailors and soldiers teamed with Afghan National Police and Afghan National Army and entered three separate valleys. The forces established vehicle checkpoints to cordon the areas and prevent the enemy from fleeing. The three valleys: Korengal, Matin and Dewagal (ChowKay), are notorious for enemy activity against coalition forces.

“This is what we do. We train hard, and then we come out here and do whatever we need to do to find the enemy,” Said Sgt. Andrew K. Nguyen, TOW missile man, from Corsicana, Texas. “It’s a good thing when we can come out here and do our part against terrorism.”

The onset of winter and the accompanying severe drop in temperature usually forces the ACM to limit its activity. Since Marines and Sailors were trained and conditioned to operate in freezing temperatures, they capitalized on their capabilities and attacked the insurgents when they were most vulnerable.

“The weather was not as much of a factor as we anticipated. The Marines and Sailors of the battalion were well prepared, and we didn’t spend as much time above the snowline as we were ready to — primarily because the enemy was not up there,” Lt. Col. J.E. Donnellan, commanding officer, from Old Bridge, N.J.

By conducting actions against known enemy ambush sites, Marines detained six enemy personnel and recovered five enemy weapons caches. After the Marines shifted from cordon and containment operations, they took to

See **WARRIORS**, A-6



A Marine fires a tube-launched, optically tracked, wire-guided missile against Anti-Coalition Militia forces during Operation Sorkh Khar. The Marines were attacked with rocket-propelled grenades and machine-gun fire, but quickly responded and gained fire superiority over the insurgents. The Island Warriors had set up a vehicle checkpoint in order to cordon an area of operations and were attacked on Nov. 18 in the Asadabad Province.

Sgt. Robert M. Storm

## K-Bay Shore Sailor of the Year hails from MCAF

**Sgt. Joseph A. Lee**  
*Combat Correspondent*

At 8, a young Biloxi, Miss. native knew exactly what he wanted to be when he grew up. He couldn’t really place a finger on why, but he knew that military service was the place for him.

Today, 23 years later, and 12 years of sea service behind him, Petty Officer 1st Class Rodney H. Love is not only living the life he always knew he wanted to live, he is doing it in such a way as to garner recognition for achievements in his field.

Just recently, Love was selected as Shore Sailor of the Year for Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

“I just always had a drive to join the military,” said Love. “I saw the military as a group of people who got to be a part of the shaping of history. I wanted to be one of those people. I wanted to be more than just the average Joe. When the Navy recruiter pitched his deal, I was sold before he started talking.”

Love is the leading petty officer for the Air Traffic Control tower, Marine Corps Air Facility. Known around the shop as the “go-to-guy.” Love’s achievements won him the honor of being chosen as Sailor of the Quarter earlier in the year.

“As I’ve come up through

the ranks, I’ve learned to lead by example, and I always try to present myself in a professional way, while on and off duty,” said Love. “The military molds people in a certain way, and that is what I joined for — to be cast in that mold, and maybe one day to become the mold.”

According to Love, his decision to join the military didn’t surprise his parents much, and both of Love’s parents were happy to see him take his life in a positive direction.

See **LOVE**, A-5



Petty Officer 1st Class Rodney Love, leading petty officer for the Air Traffic Control tower, Marine Corps Air Facility, keeps a watchful eye on the flightline as incoming aircraft make their final approach. Love was recently named Shore Sailor of the Year for Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

Sgt. Jerome L. Edwards

## Mortars pull weight in Afghan terrain

**Sgt. Robert M. Storm and Petty Officer 3rd Class Joseph T. DePrisco**

*Combat Correspondents*

**JALABAD, Afghanistan** — All maneuver units use indirect fire assets to assist in the accomplishment of their mission. The ground commander is responsible for the employment of indirect fire provided by mortars. Marines and Sailors of 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, sleep well under the constant protection of the battalion’s indirect fire assets. The mortar teams have continually proven how versatile they can be under the extreme conditions of a combat zone.

“The main difference between 81 millimeter mortars and field artillery is a higher angle of fire. The artillery round has a flatter trajectory, while the mortar round has a very steep arc. “You don’t have to see the target to fire at it. Mortars can fire over hills, buildings and rivers, which makes them really useful out here in Afghanistan because of all the mountains,” explained Lance Cpl. Reynaldo M. Gonzalez, mortarmen, from Austin, Texas.

Mortars were designed to aim an

explosive in a high-angle arc so the rounds will land in narrow enemy trenches. The mortar round is propelled almost straight up and falls straight down. The mission of the 81 mm mortar platoon is to provide indirect fire support for the infantry.

Besides the tactical advantage of its high trajectory, the 81 mm mortar can be broken down into three sections: the bipod, the barrel and the base plate. The plate is used to make it easier to carry the mortar long distances.

Even though the weapon system is carried in different pieces, a crew can assemble the weapon in as little as 15 seconds. Assembly and disassembly are practiced routinely during training. The key to survival for many units is the ability of the mortars to quickly engage and suppress the enemy. Mortars use a variety of rounds: high explosive, white phosphorous, and even illumination rounds for night operations.

“We just completed a three-day mission with the Army in Operation Backblast. We fired illumination rounds at night so that the Afghanistan forces that were joined up for the mission would be

See **MORTAR**, A-7

## Variety of Christmas trees, wreaths for sale on base



Aaron Clark, store worker, Marine Corps Annex, straps a Grandis tree to the top of a vehicle. A variety of trees are for sale across from the Annex, aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

Prices range from \$18 to \$75 at lot across from MCX

**Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson**  
*Combat Correspondent*

It has been known for years as “Black Friday.” The day after Thanksgiving is supposedly the largest shopping day of the year, and a true indication that Christmas is extremely close.

Black Friday is so called because it is the one day of the year that merchants, who may not be doing well with sales and are “in the red,” have the opportunity to make huge profits from sales, thus taking them into the “black.” Thus, Black Friday was born.

However, it is also the one day of the year that shoppers overcrowd stores in hopes of getting the ultimate deal on their Christmas gifts.

This Black Friday, some families were able to get into the Christmas spirit while shopping closer to home. At 6 a.m., Christmas trees were being sold across from the Marine Exchange Annex aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

“We have 1,008 trees this year that will be available to families,” said Mickey Delahunty, divisional sales manager, Hard Goods, Marine Corps Community Services. “There will be a variety of kinds of trees available, along with wreaths, Christmas tree stands, and tree maintenance supplies.”

Among the trees available for

sale were Douglas Commercial, Noble Sheared, Fraser Sheared and Grandis, all of which vary in price.

The Douglas Commercial trees have thin, soft needles that grow from all sides of its branches and hold a strong forest aroma.

Noble Sheared needles are thick and grow in rows on each side of the branches. The branches and trees themselves are known for strength and ability to stay strong for long periods of time.

Fraser Sheared tree branches tend to point upward, creating a compact look and the needles have a flat and dark green appearance.

The Grandis is similar to the Fraser and has a strong, distinct fragrance.

See **TREE**, A-5



# NEWS BRIEFS

**Liberty Bus Service Cancelled**  
The Marine Corps Base Hawaii's Liberty Bus service will not be available today or Saturday due to the Special Olympics.  
For more information call Peggy Hunnings at 257-2171, ext. 262.

**KOCS Tour of Homes Cancelled**  
The Tour of Homes scheduled for today has been cancelled. If you have purchased tickets, please contact your unit representative, kosc\_mcbh@yahoo.com or 254-5158 for reimbursement. The Kaneohe Officers' Spouses Club sincerely apologizes for any inconvenience this may have caused.

**Lane Closure Near Front Gate**  
The right lane, from the corner of 3rd and G streets up to the static displays (toward the H3 gate), will be closed from Monday until Dec. 22 to complete an additional driveway to the Marine Mart.  
For more information, call George Kelsey at 254-7689, or Ken Takeya at 254-7539.

**Safety Standown goes Tuesday, Wednesday**  
Dr. Mark Rosekind, chief scientist of Alertness Solutions, will be speaking at the Base Theater, Tuesday and Wednesday, during a Safety Standown.  
Rosekind will speak about managing alertness and safety in our 24-hour-a-day society.

**Volunteers Needed for USS Arizona Service**  
In addition to the annual Dec. 7 observance of the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, the Navy and the National Park Service will also have a separate interment ceremony for a USS Arizona crewmember.  
The interment ceremony honors a USS Arizona crewmember in his final resting place aboard the Arizona Memorial and is a wonderful opportunity for our military personnel to pay their respects to the very few Arizona survivors.

Approximately 20 volunteers from each branch of service who will observe the event as a member of the audience are needed for this ceremony. This is not a military tasking but a call for volunteers to attend a special ceremony.  
Personnel interested in volunteering should contact Grace Hew Len at 473-3958 or 473-2888.

**Post Office Extends Hours**  
The Base Post Office will have extended hours from Monday to Dec. 23 for the holiday season. Beginning Monday, the Base Post Office will be open from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays.  
The Base Post Office will be open Dec. 24 for parcel pickup only.  
For more information, contact the Base Post Office at 257-2008.

**MMEA Returns in December**  
The Manpower Management Enlisted Assignments Branch from U.S. Marine Corps Headquarters, Quantico, Va., will conduct briefings at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Dec. 12 at the Base Theater and at Camp H.M. Smith on Dec. 13.  
About 25 monitors representing more than 100 military occupational specialties will be available. Appointments are on a first-come basis and will be kept to 10 to 15 minutes to allow for maximum participation.  
Marines should contact their unit Career Retention Specialist for additional information.

Important Phone Numbers	
On-Base Emergencies	911
Military Police	257-7114
Child Protective Service	832-5300
Fraud, Waste, Abuse & EEO	257-8852
Business Management Hotline	257-3188
Pothole & Streetlight Repair	257-2380
Base Information	449-7110

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**HAWAII MARINE, Box 63062, BUILDING 216, MCB HAWAII, KANEOHE BAY, HAWAII 96863**  
**E-MAIL: EDITOR@HAWAIIIMARINE.COM**  
**FAX: 257-1289, PHONE: 257-8835**

# EOAs, recruiters wanted

## Staff NCOs needed to fill openings in equal opportunity program

**Master Sgt. Milton D. White**  
*Equal Opportunity Advisor*

The Marines Corps is looking for staff noncommissioned officers — excluding first sergeants and sergeants major — to be equal opportunity advisors.

Advisors provide an important service to all of the Marines and Sailors who are serving with our Corps. EOAs are assigned as special staff members to commanders at major Marine Corps installations and coordinate and execute the command's Equal Opportunity program. In addition, they provide instruction, assistance and advice on all EO matters. Their efforts promote teamwork and understanding among Marines and Sailors.

In the Commandant's Equal Opportunity Statement, Gen. Michael W. Hagee speaks of creating an environment that molds individual Marines and Sailors into a unit. The EOA educates Marines and Sailors so that they gain an understanding about

different backgrounds, beliefs and values. Understanding the individual differences that were brought together at boot camp and officer training school and molded into a common heritage as U.S. Marines and Sailors creates the awareness that every Marine and Sailor is an integral part of a unit. All are valued equally as members of the team, making the Corps better and stronger as it continues to win our country's battles at home and abroad.

Commanders should encourage Marines who possess the ability to take up the challenge of becoming an EOA. Marine Corps Order 5354.3B provides the standing operating procedures for EOAs and the application process. Marine Corps Admin 482/05 provides additional information regarding application submission.

For more information, contact Master Sgt. White, Marine Corps Base Hawaii's EOA, at 257-7720 or the Senior EOA at Headquarters Marine Corps, Master Gunnery Sgt. R.D. Whitney at DSN 278-9371, or commercial (703) 784-9371.

## Iowa, Nebraska seek Marines for recruiter's assistance

**Press Release**  
*Marine Corps Recruiting Station*

**DES MOINES, Iowa** — Squared-away Marines eager to join in the recruiting fight in Iowa or Nebraska, while earning promotions and being close to home for up to 30 days, are encouraged to volunteer to be recruiters' assistants.

Just for referring two people who enlist, privates and privates first class will be promoted. Lance corporals and corporals can earn up to 100 promotion points for referrals, 20 for each.

In order to qualify, Marines must have good military service and appearance, be personable and be able to honorably represent the Corps in the civilian community.

Duties will likely include representing the Marine Corps as a proof source to applicants in their hometown, conduct assorted administrative tasks, and assist recruiters at public events and school visits.

Marines will be given permissive temporarily additional duty orders that are of no cost to the government but will not count as annual leave.

Eligible Marines must contact their unit first sergeant and chain of command for permission.

Once permission is received, Marines should contact the recruiting substation within Recruiting Station Des Moines where they would like to work, or call (515) 253-9347.

# Service members warned not to fall for new fraud attempts

**1st Lt Jason Lee**  
*Legal Assistance Office*

Nicholas Cage, in the movie "Matchstick Men," plays a con man adept at pulling off scams.

A scam is described as a fraudulent business scheme, an illegal operation, or dishonest plan.

Although not as intricate as scams portrayed in Hollywood movies, several scams designed to defraud Marines by stealing either their money or personal information; i.e., identity theft, have already been discovered on the mainland, and Marines and their family members in Hawaii could be targeted next.

**Postal money order scams**  
Criminals looking to steal your cash have started using a new scam that has already hit a few Marines at Camp Lejeune, Jacksonville, N.C. In the last few months, the FBI has noticed an increase in the use of counterfeit U.S. postal money orders. Authorities indicate that a substantial percentage of these attempted rip-offs come from overseas, mostly from Nigeria, Ghana, and Eastern European countries. Often, the victims are contacted by e-mail, and are tricked into accepting the fake U.S. postal money orders, which are usually worth several thousand dollars, as payment for items the victims are selling — sometimes on eBay — or conned into cashing the U.S. postal money orders in return for a fee.

In the cases from Lejeune, Marines were contacted via the Internet, and asked to cash several U.S. postal money orders, keep a per-

centage for their services, and wire the balance via Western Union back to the sender. Had the fake money orders been discovered as frauds after they were cashed, the Marines would have been on the hook for the whole amount of the money orders. The U.S. Secret Service and the U.S. Postal Service Inspector General are being notified about this case.

The print quality of such fake U.S. postal money orders can be quite good and difficult to distinguish from the real thing. but here are ways to tell the difference. Genuine U.S. postal money orders have a watermark which, when held up to the light, reveals an image of Benjamin Franklin. They also have a security strip running alongside the watermark, just to the right. When held to the light, a microfiber strip will show the letters "USPS" along its length.

Common sense is a strong ally against fraud. Strangers from foreign countries do not mail out valuable money orders and just hope that the money would be wired back unless there is a scam involved. Marines should be extremely cautious in such cases, as with all of their financial transactions. Carelessness can lead to substantial financial loss, and other serious legal problems.

**Tips for postal customers**

- Be skeptical of anyone asking you to wire money to overseas bank accounts, or to cash money orders, or checks, on their behalf.
- Know who you are dealing with. Never give out personal or financial information to anyone you don't know.
- Familiarize yourself with postal money order security features.

- Never wire funds to anyone unless you're sure the money order or check they gave you was cleared by your bank and the funds were released.

**CLEP scam**  
Interested in earning college credits through the College Level Examination Program? If you are, then you may be a target of companies that offer to sell study material for CLEP tests. To entice people into buying their product, salespersons for these companies may make representations that are false. For example, the salesperson may claim that once you pass these tests, enough credits will have been accumulated for a college degree, or that a person's GI Bill will recoup the costs of the study materials being sold. Both of these assertions are false.

What those interested in the CLEP test should know is that educational material to prepare for the tests are available for free. The same or similar study guides for CLEP tests are available at the Kaneohe Bay Base Library and the Camp Smith Base Library. Also, all active duty service members may sign up for a free online account with Navy Knowledge Online, where they can access a comprehensive list of study materials available on the NKO Web site.

Finally, active duty service members can register to take CLEP tests at the Joint Education Center — at no cost.

The following are useful Web sites and points of contact:

- About the CLEP: [www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes\\_web/examinations/CLEP.htm](http://www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes_web/examinations/CLEP.htm)

**See SCAMS, A-7**

# ICE lets customers provide feedback

**Compiled by the Public Affairs Office**  
*Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay*

Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, is a participant in an Office of Secretary of Defense sponsored Interactive Customer Evaluation System. This program is Web based and may be accessed from any computer. The ICE site allows customers to provide feedback, whether positive or negative, regarding the services provided by any service provider aboard K-Bay.

The ICE system, also used by the Army,



Navy and Air Force, is designed to improve service as well as to provide leadership with timely data on customer service and satisfaction.

Patrons are encouraged to submit an online comment card regarding the service they received from providers. Customers rate the services that they receive, and their feedback is used to determine how to improve upon the quality of service.

Completing these comment cards is a convenient and efficient method for customers to express their opinions about the service they receive from providers.

Because each service provider has a manager who is responsible for answering or responding to comment card notifications, customers receive feedback to their submissions.


In addition to commenting on services at MCB Hawaii, customers can also rate service providers on other DoD facilities located anywhere around the world.

The ICE home page allows customers to choose the organization and installation they are looking for and navigate to the appropriate service provider with relative ease.

Customers are invited to log on to <http://ice.disa.mil> to fill out a comment card, at a time that is convenient to them.

## Weekend weather outlook

### Today




**Day** — partly cloudy skies; light and variable winds at 7 mph

**Night** — partly to mostly cloudy conditions; light rain showers; light and variable winds at 7 mph

**High** — 81  
**Low** — 71

### Saturday




**Day** — partly to mostly cloudy conditions with rain showers, light winds out of the northeast

**Night** — mostly cloudy with temporary partly conditions and light rain over the mountains

**High** — 81  
**Low** — 72

### Sunday



**Day** — mostly cloudy conditions with rain showers; southwest winds out of at 12 mph

**Night** — mostly clody conditions with evening rain showers; southwest winds out of at 12 mph

**High** — 81  
**Low** — 72





Pfc. Jose Fuentes III, radio operator, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, sets up radio communications, Nov. 22, during a training exercise, on Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

# Wired up

1/12 Marines set up communications

**Story and Photos By  
Pfc. Edward C. deBree**  
*Combat Correspondent*

Imagine being in a combat situation where the unit is under heavy enemy fire. The specific location of the enemy fire is unknown; the only thing known is the general direction from which it is coming. Who would you call in for support? You would call in artillery — that's who.

One thing that ensures the firepower of the artillery batteries is the skill of communication. Without good lines of communication, batteries would not have proper coordinates, and no good can come out of that.

On Nov. 22, Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, went to various spots on Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, to practice setting up equipment and establishing lines of communication between different headquarters.

"What we want to do here today is work on our speed and proficiency on setting up and establishing our communications," said Staff Sgt. Lamar A. Burrs, battery gunnery sergeant, Headquarters Battery, 1/12. "The key thing we are looking for today is proficiency."

The 35-year-old Gastonia, N.C. native went on to say that the unit's main focus during the training was communication with Fire Direction Control — one aspect of field communications that prepares Marines to communicate while using computers in the field.

"The computers communicate with all the batteries, guns, and forward

observers," said Burrs. "Digital communication achieves firing data a lot faster these days. We can get all the coordinates faster and tell the batteries where to fire."

During the exercise, the Marines raised antennas, set up radio connections, pitched tents that held intelligence information, and established communications with different headquarters.

The first place the Marines set up their communication site was at Landing Zone Eagle. After they made all the necessary connections, they moved to the Boondocker to set up again to try to establish communication there and to practice convoy operations during the all-day exercise.

"This is great training for us because we're kind of training twice, since we're going to be setting up in two different locations," said Burrs. "Marines are always practicing for war, and this training is very useful for us because we're practicing a few things at once. What we really want is proficiency here, in case we are ever in a combat situation."

Another use for this training, according to Burrs, is to have the new Marines, who have recently checked in, retain the knowledge they have learned at their occupational school.

"We always get new Marines," he said. "Like anything else that you would do, if you don't keep on practicing, then you will lose the knowledge that you have learned. With the jobs that we, as Marines, have, losing the knowledge that will give us an advantage in combat can be fatal."



Marines assigned to 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, set up communications during a training exercise, Nov. 22, on Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. The training was conducted so that the Marines could work on their speed and proficiency on setting up and establishing lines of communication.



Marines assigned to 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, set up a communications tent during a training exercise they conducted in order to enhance their speed and proficiency, Nov. 22, on Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.



Left — Marines assigned to 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, test radios and record data during a communications training exercise.

Above — Pfc. Joel Yanez runs with an antenna pole to set up communication during a training exercise.



# On the skyline ... with 1/3

by Sgt. Joe Lindsay

*On the Skyline is a weekly column written by Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Combat Correspondent Sgt. Joe Lindsay. Lindsay has recently returned to K-Bay with 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine*

*Regiment, from California, where they trained to prepare them for their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.*

## Bronze Star awardee gears up for eighth deployment

Like hail during a thunderstorm, the bullets landed all around the Marine as he simultaneously fired two M-16 service rifles, one in each arm. His own weapon and the weapon of his platoon sergeant, who was busy carrying another wounded Marine on his back to safety, continuously erupted as he methodically emptied magazine after magazine into the insurgent position.

The four Marines were in an open field in Fallujah, Iraq, with no cover. It was later called a miracle that any of them survived, especially considering that two rocket-propelled grenades had also been fired upon them, the shrapnel going every which way but inexplicably missing their flesh.

For his actions that day, and throughout Operation Iraq Freedom II, while serving in an officer's billet as the platoon commander for 1st Platoon, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, Staff Sgt. Ralph Scott was awarded the Bronze Star with the "V" device — authorized for acts or service involving direct participation in combat operations.

But that medal only begins to tell the story of Scott, a man with an unyielding sense of duty toward his fellow Marines, according to his platoon sergeant who served with him that fateful day — Sgt. Michael Chambers of Lexington, S.C.

"When Staff Sergeant Scott first came to us in Charlie Company, all he said to us was, 'My whole entire job — I don't care if it takes my life — is to bring you all home,'" said Chambers, recalling his initial meeting with Scott. "I'm here to tell you that he stood behind his word."

Nine of the 14 Marines in Charlie Company's 1st Squad from 1st Platoon were wounded that day in Fallujah, but all of them survived, and are alive today, either directly or indirectly because of Scott's leadership and actions, noted Chambers.

"Anybody from that platoon, seeing what he did ..." started Chambers, his words drifting off into the contemplative reflection of a man who has seen things others care not to imagine. "My words can't do him justice," continued Chambers. "All I can say is you won't meet another man like him. Every battle we were in, while Marines would naturally and instinctively hit the deck when the first barrage would hit, Staff Sergeant Scott would be there standing, already simultaneously returning fire. We would follow his lead. There's no finer man, no fiercer warrior that the Marines have ever sent



Photo Courtesy of Staff Sgt. Ralph Scott

**Staff Sgt. Ralph Scott, a native of Tallahassee, Fla., stands in front of a burning building in Fallujah, Iraq, during Operation Iraq Freedom II. Scott was recently awarded the Bronze Star with combat "V" for his heroism in Iraq while serving in an officer's billet as the platoon commander for 1st Platoon, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment.**

into battle than that man. I would go back to combat with him in a second."

Chambers may get his chance, as both he and Scott are slated to deploy with 1/3 on its upcoming deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, although Scott, who currently serves as the 1/3 assistant operations chief, is no longer in Charlie Company.

"In my heart, I'm still with Charlie Company," said Scott, a Tallahassee, Fla., native who joined the Marine Corps at the age of 17, soon after graduating high school. "Whatever job the Marine Corps gives me, I will do it to the best of my ability, but I'd be lying if I said I'd rather be here than back with the grunts."

The men of Charlie Company said they felt

the same way, in particular, the ones who served with Scott in Fallujah.

"Staff Sergeant Scott is one of those Staff NCOs who you can tell cares about his Marines," said Lance Cpl. William Duffield, a 1/3 rifleman from Ridgway, Pa. "I saw with my own eyes the way he was over in Iraq. It would be hard for me to pick a particular day where he distinguished himself, because he was distinguishing himself every single day, every single battle. It makes me proud to know I served with him."

"I got hit with 13 pieces of shrapnel from my legs all the way up my back in Iraq," added Lance Cpl. Christopher Harris, a 1/3 rifleman from Jasper, Texas. "There were other Marines who got shot up worse than me that still lived. Sometimes I feel lucky to be alive. Marines like Staff Sergeant Scott are a big part of the reason we are still here, still breathing. He would never leave another Marine behind. We were like a big family over there. Staff Sergeant Scott knows what it's like. He was raised in the grunts."

Indeed, just two years into his first enlistment, Scott found himself in Iraq during the Gulf War in 1991, but he characteristically downplays the numerous accomplishments throughout his Marine Corps career.

"I wake up every morning, and I come to work," said Scott. "Whether work happens to be behind a desk in Hawaii or on a battlefield in Iraq isn't really the point. The point is to do your best and give your best effort at all times and in all situations."

According to Maj. Michael Miller, 1/3 executive officer, Scott's philosophy is one he respects.

"Nobody goes out and says, 'Hey, I'm going to get the Navy Cross today or the Bronze Star today,'" said the Boalsburg, Pa., native. "You just stumble into a bad situation, and the only

way to make it go away is to prevail over your foe. It is an exceptional person who steps up above and beyond what is considered normal duty — and those types of Marines have prevented some catastrophic events due to their personal actions."

There is no argument among the Marines in Charlie Company who served with Scott in Iraq that he is one such Marine.

"He (Scott) stepped up to the plate in Iraq," said Lance Cpl. Justin Deleon, a 1/3 anti-tank assaultman from Marquez, Texas. "He was holding an officer's billet. He was an underdog, but he stepped up and delivered. Under his leadership, we all formed a bond in Charlie Company that can never be broken."

"If Staff Sergeant Scott gets a mission, it gets done. Simple as that," added Lance Cpl. Chris Berggren, a 1/3 rifleman from Lincoln, Neb. "Seeing with my own eyes what he did over in Iraq, it doesn't surprise me at all he was awarded the Bronze Star for valor. He deserves it."

As Scott prepares to deploy to Afghanistan, he reflected back to his days in Charlie Company.

"When I look back and think about Fallujah, I don't think about the things I did," remarked Scott. "I think about the things the Marines did. One of my squads was pretty much decimated from a casualty perspective, but they still kept fighting. Only by the grace of God, nobody was killed."

According to Sgt. Maj. Michael Berg, 1/3 sergeant major, men like Scott are a breed apart.

"Most people hear gunfire and they run away from the danger," said the Plymouth, N.H., native. "Marines don't have that luxury. Marines run directly into danger, and Marines like Staff Sergeant Scott lead the way."

Scott, a 1989 graduate of Amos P. Godby High School in Tallahassee, Fla., is currently in the process of writing a book about his experience in Iraq. He also plans on completing his degree in criminal justice from Florida State University before attending law school at FSU after he retires from the Marine Corps.

"I had two dreams as a kid," said Scott. "The first one was to be a Marine. The second was to graduate from law school. I don't know if I'll ever be a practicing attorney, but I want to have the option."

According to Scott, after retirement, he plans on settling down in Florida. Though he plans

*See SCOTT, A-7*

# Marines attack with ‘everything’

**Sgt. Robert M. Storm**  
*Combat Correspondent*

**JALABAD, Afghanistan** — Marines and Sailors of 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, recently displayed effective use of “combined arms” during Operation Sorkh Khar, which took place in the Korengal Valley. The Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, unit is in Afghanistan supporting of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The concept of combined arms goes beyond having the optimal weapon system at the right time to do a particular mission. It involves the simultaneous use of weapon systems that complement each other to achieve results the systems cannot obtain independently, according to the Warfighter Planning Course.

During two separate attacks throughout the operation, Marines coordinated the use of air support, indirect fire (artillery), and light and heavy infantry weapons.

“As soon as the enemy attacked the second time, we called in air support — we called in 105 millimeter artillery. After that, we used an AC-130 (U.S. Air Force gunship) to engage with its 40 millimeter cannon, and then we dropped two JDAMs (Joint Direct Attack Munitions, a 2,000-pound bomb),” said Capt. Casmer J. Ratkowiak, forward air controller, from Panama City, Fla.

Combined arms is the art of using all the different weapons systems in the Marine Corps with each other in an overwhelming way.

An example of combined arms would be

combining tanks and infantry. Tanks are vulnerable to infantry armed with rockets. In an urban environment, tanks are especially vulnerable because of all the places infantry can hide. A person inside a tank has very poor visibility that can be exploited. Tanks are powerful, well armored and armed with a cannon and machine guns, but infantry needs to protect tanks from enemy infantry.

However, when tanks and infantry work together, they are a formidable team. Infantry can neutralize other infantry and the tank can destroy targets that are too tough for the infantry.

“When we engaged the enemy after they fired at us it looked like the fourth of July,” said Lance Cpl. Karsten A. Machado, infantryman, from Norman, Okla. “They hit us with RPGs (rocket-propelled grenades) and machine-gun fire, we hit them with everything, from machine guns to missiles to artillery to bombs.”

The Marines in Afghanistan typically use combined arms with artillery and air support. Light infantry engages an enemy to pin them down, then the Marines call in all the other assets like artillery and air support to engage. The insurgents are left with no viable options. If they move from under cover, they are visible from the air and vulnerable to artillery strikes. If they stay, Marines will close in and engage.

Marines train extensively in this tactic and many consider them to be specialists in their ability to integrate arms.

“When they first attacked, I couldn’t



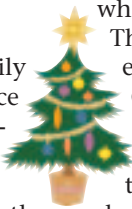
Sgt. Robert M. Storm  
**Sgt. Larry H. Courdle, a machinegunner from Willacoochee, Ga., pops smoke to indicate friendly forces to air support, after an attack by Anti-Coalition Militia forces during Operation Sorkh Khar. Marines often use combined arms methods to complete missions.**

believe it. I didn’t think I would see any combat since I wasn’t a grunt, but since the Marines train you to think — ‘Every Marine is a rifleman’ — I just did what I had to do,” said Lance Cpl. Marc I. Rahman, motor vehicle operator, from Hamden, Conn. “It was crazy. At one point, I looked up and saw a Marine get knocked down when an RPG landed near him. I thought he was dead, but he turned out to be fine.”

## TREES, From A-1

Whichever tree the family prefers, there is a chance that it is one that is available at the tree sale.

“The trees start at \$18, and go up to \$75,” said the Queens, N.Y. native. “It all depends on the height and



what type of tree is preferred. The Noble tree is the most expensive while the Douglas Commercial is the cheapest.”

According to Delahunty, the Christmas wreaths are also on sale for \$19 each, tree stands and tree maintenance supplies are also available.

## LOVE, From A-1

Since joining the Navy, Love has served at sea and ashore, and though his career field has had him on shore duty, his true passion is the sea.

“If all goes well, I hope to get stationed aboard ship in Japan,” said Love. “I hope to make my next rank soon, and hopefully get a chance to deploy to

the Gulf.”

In his free time, Love enjoys his hobby of photography and travels around the island taking a variety of landscape photographs.

“I just got into photography a couple years ago, but I really enjoy being stationed in a place like Hawaii because it allows me to practice and enjoy my hobby.”

In December, Love will go to Norfolk, Va., where he will vie for the title of West Coast Shore Sailor of the Year, competing against the Shore Sailor of the Year from a shore command in Washington State. If selected, Love will then move on to compete against Shore Sailors of the Year from around the fleet for the top slot as the Navy’s Shore Sailor of the Year 2005.



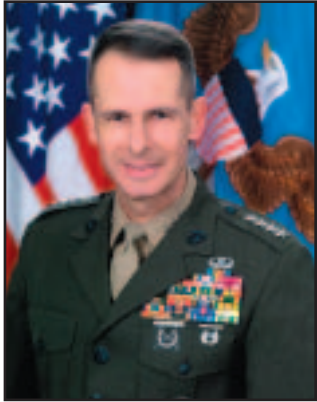
# Pace supports white phosphorous use

**Donna Miles**

*American Forces Press Service*

**WASHINGTON** — White phosphorous is a legitimate military tool, but U.S. forces have been highly judicious about using it to avoid harming civilians, Marine Gen. Peter Pace, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told Pentagon Tuesday.

Pace defended use of the substance, which U.S. forces use primarily as a smokescreen, to



PACE

mark targets or to flush enemy combatants out of protected positions. “It is well within the law of war to use those weapons as they are being used for marking and screening,” he said.

U.S. troops used limited white phosphorous munitions against legitimate targets during Operation Al Fajr in Fallujah, Iraq, last year, defense officials confirmed. However, officials refuted recent news reports that U.S.

forces have used the substance as an incendiary weapon. White phosphorous can cause serious burns if it comes into contact with skin.

U.S. forces have never used white phosphorous to target innocent civilians, officials said, and have taken great pains to avoid doing so.

Just as with any other weapon, troops use a variety of factors to determine the appropriateness of using white phosphorous, explained Air Force Maj. Todd Vician, a Pentagon spokesman. These include the target vulnerability and location, available munitions, and the potential risk to civilians and friendly forces, he said.

“No armed force in the world goes to greater effort than your armed force to protect civilians and to be very precise in the way we apply our power,” Pace said.

“A bullet goes through the skin even faster than white phosphorous does. So I would rather have the proper instrument applied at the proper time as precisely as possible to get the job done in a way that kills as many of the bad guys as possible and does as little collateral damage as possible,” the chairman said. “That is just the nature of warfare.”

White phosphorous was commonly used during the Vietnam War, where it garnered the nickname, “Willie Pete” among troops.

A Marine assigned to 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, takes cover and searches for targets against Anti-Coalition Militia forces during Operation Sorkh Khar. The Marines were attacked with rocket-propelled grenades and machine-gun fire, but quickly responded and gained fire superiority over the insurgents. The Island Warriors were en route to a suspected weapons cache when they were attacked, Nov. 17, in the Asadabad province.

Sgt. Robert M. Storm



## WARRIORS, From A-1

the offense by conducting searches and finally by attacking the ACM forces as they attempted to respond. In several situations, the enemy did not go quietly. Nine attacks were made against the Island Warriors involving small arms or rocket-propelled grenades.

“We were attacked, and we relayed a radio message for indirect fire support. The Marines fired their machine guns and M-16s to quickly gain fire superiority and keep the enemy from moving, then it was just a matter of letting artillery do its work,” said 1st Lt. Ryan B. Cohen, platoon commander.

“Overall, Operation Sorkh Khar was a big success. The Island Warriors gathered intelligence about the terrain, weather and enemy that will benefit them in future operations in Kunar Province,” said Donnellan. “I’m incredibly proud of the way the battalion performed these past 10 days. It really taxed our flexibility at a lot of levels, to go from containing the enemy to going on the offensive. The spirit of the Marines and Sailors is what enables us to do that.”

SCAMS, *From A-2*

- Joint Education Center: 257-2158, [www.mccshawaii.com/jec.htm](http://www.mccshawaii.com/jec.htm)
- Base Library, Kaneohe Bay: 254-7624, Building 192
- Base Library, Camp Smith: 477-6348, Building 1
- Navy Knowledge Online: [www.nko.navy.mil](http://www.nko.navy.mil)

Jury duty scam

Not all scams are designed to take your money. Some scams, such as the jury duty scam, try to steal your personal information, also known as identity theft. In its simplest form, identity theft is the crime that occurs when a thief obtains some piece of your sensitive personal information and uses it without your knowledge to commit fraud or theft. The types of information that identity thieves use to commit these illegal acts come from the bits of personal information that you reveal about yourself during your everyday transactions; i.e., your name, address, phone numbers, Social Security number, savings and checking account numbers, income, etc.

In the jury duty scam, the scammer calls the residence or office number of the victim and identifies himself as an officer or employee of the local court or jurisdiction. The scammer then announces to the victim that he has failed to report for jury duty, and that a bench warrant was issued against the victim for his arrest. The scammer eventually assures the victim that if this is all just a mistake, all the scammer needs to do is verify the victim’s information with a few simple questions.

It is then that the scammer obtains name, Social Security number, date of birth, and will also solicit credit card or bank account numbers, claiming that the information will be used by their credit bureaus to verify the victim’s identity.

Service members, civilian employees, and their adult family members, must be on the lookout for identity theft scams. Legitimate court employees will never call to solicit information and would send any official notifications by standard mail delivery.

Tips to protect against identity theft

- Avoid giving personal information out via the phone, internet, or regular mail — unless you have positively identified the other party with whom you are dealing.
- Deposit your outgoing mail in secure U.S. postal mailboxes as opposed to the personal mailbox at your residence.
- Keep your SSN card in a secure location and only reveal your number when absolutely necessary. Ask to use other types of identifiers, if possible.
- Set up passwords on your credit card, bank, phone and computer accounts. Avoid using easily identifiable passwords like your SSN, birthdate, or mother’s maiden name. Change passwords at fluctuating intervals.

MORTAR, *From A-1*

able to see and maneuver at night,” said Lance Cpl. Jeremy D. West, mortarman, from Anza, Calif.

“We have some interesting stories, too. During the mission, we had to set up a position in a field of marijuana; it was a good two-mile-long field,” laughed West.

The Marine Corps has repeatedly demonstrated the effectiveness of mortars with the use of combined arms tactics. Combined arms tactics utilizes mortars to suppress the enemy, while the infantry moves closer to the enemy posi-

tion. When the infantry is close enough to the objective, the mortars cease their suppression, and the infantry finishes its assault through the objective.

By using mortars on the enemy, the Marines and Sailors are exposed to less enemy fire while the enemy is exposed to a greater volume of fire. The indirect fire provided by the mortars inhibits the enemy’s ability to mount an effective response.

Since many enemy fighters are entrenched in built up fortifications, the rapid, high-angle, plunging mortar fire is invaluable against enemy troops and targets in defilade, which are not normally

SCOTT, *From A-4*

on doing some traveling with his wife Ingrid, including a trip to Europe, he said after seven deployments — Afghanistan will be his eighth — that he is ready to stay put for a while.

It was a deployment, however, that led to Scott meeting the woman who would eventually become his wife.

“I was on a goodwill float to South America in 1993 and was on liberty just walking around,” recalled Scott. “It was God’s will that we even met. We struck up a conversation, and after I returned to the U.S. we started corresponding, then dating, and eventually we married. It was the best thing that ever happened to me.”

For her part, Ingrid, a professional language translator, said she is proud of her husband’s accomplishments, but worries about him just the same.

“Before my husband left for deployment, I had the chaplain bless him,” said the Valparaiso, Chile native. “Having your husband deployed to combat is very stressful. I couldn’t find the words enough to describe

the stress you go through; how you become a slave to the news — not knowing who’s dead — waiting endless hours for the knock at the door. It’s something that can really tear you apart.”

Ingrid said her faith in God and the emotional encouragement she has received from the 1/3 key volunteers has been a blessing.

“It helps so much, having the support of the other wives from 1/3,” commented Ingrid. “It makes you know that you’re not alone — that you’re not the only one going through it.”

As Scott gears up for another combat deployment, he speaks with the confidence of a man who knows what he’s headed for.

“I’ve never been to Afghanistan, but I’ve been to war before,” said Scott. “I can tell you 1/3 is ready. I’m ready. The Marines will always be ready. That’s just a fact. Our commanders are the best infantry commanders in the world. They’re ready. They got a game plan. I’m excited — not for the purpose of loss of life, because I know Afghanistan is going to be hazardous — but from the perspective that I know we are ready to accomplish the mission. I feel totally confident.”



Sgt. Joe Lindsay  
Staff Sgt. Ralph Scott, assistant operations chief, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, stands with his wife, Ingrid, after he was awarded the Bronze Star with combat “V.”

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